Proper care to girl child

2085.SHRIMATI SURPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has urged every State to step forward to empower the girl child;

(b) if so, whether the National Family Health Survey-III has found that in the five years preceding the survey, 44 per cent of urban and 80 per cent of the rural respondents had opted for prenatal ultrasound tests;

(c) if so, whether the Prime Minister has urged upon the States to take urgent steps to see that children born are given proper treatment;

(d) the suggestions made by the Prime Minister in this regard; and

(e) to what extent the Union Government and the States have agreed to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (e) On the occasion of the national level meet on 'Save the Girl Child' held at New Delhi on 28.4.2008, the hon'ble Prime Minister of India urged, *inter alia,* for a concerned and multi pronged societal action to address the several contributing factors in the precament of the Indian girl child. There was need to strengthen legislative enforcement, basic health care and nutrition and reorient national literacy and school education programmes to give greater focus, to women and the girl child. Leaders of civil society, particularly the religious leaders needed to be mobilized for a nationwide campaign for ending all types of discrimination against our women built into our societal structure. The hon'ble Prime Minister exhorted every citizen to step forward and help in empowering the girl child in every possible way.

The National Population Policy (NPP) 2000, the National Health Policy, 2002 and the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) have laid down the goals for maternal and child health initiatives which are also a part of the Millennium Development Goals, to which India is a signatory. The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) goal is to reduce Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 30 by 2012.

The ongoing Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme-II under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) comprehensively integrates interventions to improve child health and was initiated to address each of the major factors contributing to high IMR and under-five mortality.

(b) The National Family Health Survey-III found that the percentage of all pregnancies in the five years preceding the survey for which an ultrasound test was done in terms of residence is 44.0% in urban areas and 16.3% in rural areas.

Unregulated private nursing homes

2086.SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: